



JUDICIAL PROFILE

Thomas Dunevant III, is currently assigned to the Juvenile Court Department. In the past, he has worked as a trial judge in criminal, civil, domestic relations and special assignment and was the Presiding Judge of the Civil Department from 1992 until 1995. Prior to his appointment as a judge in 1989, he was a commissioner with the Superior Court for more than three years. Judge Dunevant, a Phoenix native, received his undergraduate degree in 1975 and his J.D. in 1978 from Arizona State University. From 1978 to 1982, he worked as a Deputy County Attorney with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office, and from 1982 to 1985 he was an Assistant City Attorney with the City of Phoenix Law Department. In 1985, he was appointed by Superior Court's then-Presiding Judge B. Michael Dann as a court commissioner. All court commissioners are lawyers and function as judicial officers, doing work similar to that performed by judges, with the exception of conducting jury trials.



Judge Dunevant is regarded as an accomplished lawyer and judge, easily handling any of the matters coming before the court. During the three years he presided over the Civil Department, he oversaw implementation of new discovery procedures (Zlaket Rules) and experimented with less expensive and quicker ways to resolve disputes through alternative dispute resolution practices. Throughout his legal and judicial career, he has been active in numerous professional and court reform groups, including the Hazel B. Daniels Bar Association, various Arizona State Bar committees including Civil Practice and Procedures, and Jury Instructions, the Bench/Bar Committee of the Maricopa County Bar Association, and the Sandra Day O'Connor Inn of Court. His success as a lawyer and judge has prompted him to revisit to his old south Phoenix neighborhood where he frequently speaks community groups and students in schools.